

*Stated Meeting, February 6.*

Present, thirteen members.

Dr. DUNGLISON, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From Fairman Rogers, dated Philadelphia, Jan. 23, 1857, and from Theodore Cuyler, dated Philadelphia, February 5, 1857, acknowledging the receipt of notice of their election as members of the Society:—

From the Etat Major of the Corps of Mining Engineers of Russia, dated St. Petersburg, 15–27 May, 1856; and from the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, dated August 1, 1856, both announcing donations for the Library:—

From the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, dated Aug. 1, 1856; and from the Royal Society of Sciences at Göttingen, dated August 23, 1856, both returning thanks for Nos. 51, 52, of the Proceedings of this Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Annales de l'Observatoire Physique Central de Russie. A. T. Kupfer, Directeur. Année 1853. Nos. 1, 2. St. Petersburg, 1855. 4to.—*From the Etat Major of the Corps of Mining Engineers of Russia.*

Abhandlungen der Königlichen Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen. Band VI. 1853–1855. Göttingen. 4to.

Nachrichten von der Georg-Augusts Universität, und der Königl. Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen. 1855. Nos. 1–18. Göttingen. 8vo.—*From the Royal Society of Sciences at Göttingen.*

Kongl. Vetenskaps Akademiens Handlingar; 1853, Part 2:—1854, Part 1. Ofversigt af Kongl. Vetenskaps Akad. Förhandlingar: XII. Årgangen, 1855. Arsberättelse om Botaniska Arbeten och Upptäckter för år 1851, till Kongl. Vet. Akad. 31 Mars, 1852: af Joh. Em. Wikström. Stockholm. 8vo.—*From the Royal Academy of Sciences, Stockholm.*

Schriften der Russisch Kaiserlichen Gesellschaft für die Gesamte

- Mineralogie. I. Band; 1, 2 Abtheilung. St. Petersburg, 1842. 8vo.—*From the Imp. Russian Mineralogical Society.*
- Notices of the Meetings of the Members of the Royal Institution of Great Britain: Part VI. July 1855, July 1856. With list of the Officers, Members, &c., and the Report of the Visitors for the year 1855. London. 8vo.—*From the Institution.*
- The Natural History Review; published quarterly: including the Transactions of the Irish Natural History Societies, and of the Geological Society of Dublin. Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12. Jan.—Oct. 1856. London. 8vo.—*From the Editors.*
- Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society. Vol. XVII. No. 2. Dec. 1856. London. 8vo.—*From the Society.*
- Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History. Vol. VI. No. 4. Jan. 1857. Boston. 8vo.—*From the Society.*
- Journal of the Franklin Institute. Third Series. Vol. XXXIII. No. 1. January, 1857. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From the Institute.*
- The American Journal of Science and Arts. Second Series. Vol. XXIII. No. 67. January, 1857. New Haven. 8vo.—*From the Editors.*
- A Memoir on the Cholera at Oxford, in the year 1854; with considerations suggested by the Epidemic. By Henry Wentworth Acland, M.D. F.R.S. &c. London, 1856. 4to.—*From the Author.*
- First Annual Message of the Hon. Richard Vaux, Mayor of Philadelphia; with accompanying Documents. Presented to the City Councils, January 8, 1857. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- Charter and By-laws of the Newark Library Association. Newark, 1856. 8vo.—*From the Association.*
- The Medical News and Library. Vol. XV. No. 170. February, 1857. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Blanchard & Lea.*
- The Astronomical Journal: No. 100. (Vol. V. No. 4). Jan. 17, 1857. Albany. 4to.—*From the Editor.*
- The African Repository. Vol. XXXIII. No. 1. Jan. 1857. Washington. 8vo.—*From the American Colonization Society.*

Mr. Fraley announced the decease of Isaac R. Davis, a member of the Society, who died on the 4th inst. aged 47.

On motion of Dr. William Harris, Mr. Stephen Colwell was appointed to prepare an obituary notice of Mr. Davis.

Dr. Duglison announced the decease of the Baron Joseph Von Hammer Purgstall, a member of this Society, who died recently in Vienna at an advanced age.

A communication was read, entitled "Notes on certain modes of measuring minute intervals of time," by Dr. J. C. Adamson, which was referred to a committee consisting of Prof. Frazer, Mr. Justice, and Prof. Kendall.

Judge Kane asked for information relative to photographic representations of the moon, and inquired why the process cannot be so improved as to give pictures of the moon's surface, by means of magnified photographs, under intense light, which may be rendered useful for astronomical purposes, and to afford us a more complete knowledge than we now possess, of the actual condition of affairs on the surface of the moon.

Mr. Justice, in reference to this subject, remarked, that in magnifying photographic representations of the moon's face, the imperfections of the picture (arising from irregularities of the surface upon which the impression is made or transferred) are so magnified as materially to impair the useful effects of the operation. He referred to the difficulty of producing magnified images with clear and distinct characters of the objects represented by the photographic process; but expressed a confident hope that the progress of the arts would, before long, produce apparatus by which the present difficulties in relation to this matter would be overcome.

The Reporter laid upon the table No. 56 of the Proceedings of this Society, recently published.

*Stated Meeting, February 20.*

Present, twelve members.

Prof. CRESSON, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Prof. Fairman Rogers, Mr. Thomas P. James, and Mr. Theodore Cuyler, recently elected members, were introduced and took their seats.